

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:  
Rakoczy et al.

) Appl. Ref. No.:

GRI-010

)

) Art Unit:

1635

)

) Examiner:

S. McGarry

)

Serial No.: 09/065,082

Filing Date: July 16, 1998

Title:

HYALURONIC ACID AS DNA CARRIER FOR GENE THERAPY AND VEGF  
ANTISENSE DNA TO TREAT ABNORMAL RETINAL VASCULARIZATION

RESPONSE

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington DC 20231

Sir/Madam:

Responsive to the Communication dated September 22, 1999, a copy of which is enclosed herewith, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 12, line 16, please add <sup>where on line 16?</sup> as a new paragraph - For the purposes of this

specification the term "comprising" is to be understood to mean "including but not limited to".

Page 17, after line 12, insert the following:

Figure 14 shows the results of Northern blot analysis of the expression of sense and anti-sense VEGF RNA in Ad.VAI.VEGFS and Ad VAI.VEGFAS transduced human embryonal kidney cells (293 cells).

Figure 15 shows the results of Northern blot analysis of the expression of sense and anti-sense VEGF RNA in Ad.VAI.VEGFS and AD VAI.VEGFAS transduced retinal pigment epithelial cells (RPE 51).

Page 41, line 15, change the semicolon into -SEQ. ID NO:1;-; and

line 16, change the period into -SEQ. ID NO:2.--.

Page 50, after line 3, add the following:

**Example 19: Expression of VEGF Antisense mRNA fragments  
by Ad.VAI.AVEGF recombinant adenovirus**

Generation of recombinant adenoviruses expressing VA1-ratVEGF antisense RNAs. The Ad2 virus-associated RNA (VA1 RNA) was chosen to produce the antisense rat VEGF RNA structures. VA1 is a simple gene containing two intragenic promoter regions,